

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 246702

70

ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 SY-04 H-01 L-02 CIAE-00

INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /035 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:GKULICK:NB

APPROVED BY AF: JJBLAKE

SCA/SCS:RDAVIS (SUBSTANCE)

----- 042368

P 081950Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 246702

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: CASC (LIGHT, DAVID)

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF DAVID LIGHT

1. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLAKE CALLED IN AMB. ADDOU NOVEMBER 7 TO DISCUSS PROGRESS OF ADDOU'S EFFORTS TO SECURE RELEASE OF OR ACCESS TO DAVID LIGHT. ADDOU SAID HE HAD CABLED ACTING FOREIGN SECRETARY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING EARLIER MEETING WITH BLAKE BUT HAD NOT YET RECEIVE REPLY. HE ADDED, WITH CURIOUS LOGIC, THAT LACK OF RESPONSE WAS AN ENCOURAGING SIGN, BECAUSE IT MEANT MOFA STILL WORKING ON THE PROBLEM. ADDOU SAID THAT INVOLVEMENT OF TWO ETHIOPIANS IN CASE IS COMPLICATING FACTOR. IF LIGHT HAD CROSSED BORDER BY HIMSELF, HE WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN RELEASED QUICKLY, BUT DIFFICULT TO RELEASE HIM WHILE CONTINUING TO HOLD ETHIOPIANS, WHOSE MOTIVES ARE UNDERSTANDABLY VERY SUSPECT IN SOMALI EYES. BY WAY OF FURTHER EXPLANATION/RATIONALIZATION, ADDOU SAID LACK OF PROGRESS PROBABLY DUE LARGELY TO LONG ABSENCE OF PRESIDENT SIAD AND FOREIGN SECRETARY ARTEH FROM SOMALIA. ADDOU SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY SEND ANOTHER CABLE TO MOGADISCIO, THIS TIME TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 246702

THE ACTING PRESIDENT. HE ALSO HANDED OVER TO COUNTRY

OFFICER SEALED LETTER MARKED "PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL" AND ASKED THAT IT BE PASSED TO AMBASSADOR KIRK. LETTER HAS BEEN POUCHED.

2. BLAKE TOLD ADDOU WE ARE AWARE OF DIFFICULTIES, BUT FACT REMAINS THAT AMERICAN CITIZEN HAS BEEN DETAINED COMPLETELY INCOMMUNICADO FOR SIX WEEKS. IF PROGRESS IS NOT MADE VERY SOON, AFFAIR WILL ALMOST SURELY SURFACE IN PRESS AND CONGRESS, CAUSING GREAT EMBARRASSMENT TO USG AND GSDR. BLAKE STRESSED THAT NO EXCUSE LIKELY BE ACCEPTABLE TO SUCH CRITICS.

3. AFTER MEETING, COUNTRY OFFICER RAISED POSSIBILITY OF ADDOU'S BRINGING PROBLEM IMMEDIATELY TO SIAD'S PERSONAL ATTENTION DURING HIS WEST AFRICAN SOJOURN, RATHER THAN AWAITING HIS RETURN TO SOMALIA, WHICH MAY NOT OCCUR FOR AT LEAST A WEEK. ADDOU SAID HE THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT SINCE HE NOT SURE OF SIAD'S WHEREABOUTS AND BECAUSE SOMALIA HAS FEW EMBASSIES IN WEST AFRICA. AFTER APPARENT SECOND THOUGHTS, ADDOU TELEPHONED COUNTRY OFFICER TO ASK IF DEPARTMENT COULD DETERMINE PRESIDENT'S WHEREABOUTS IN WEST AFRICA. DEPARTMENT WILL LOCATE SIAD AND INFORM ADDOU. MAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974STATE246702  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** GKULICK:NB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740322-0526  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741158/aaaabxaz.tel  
**Line Count:** 84  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <28 AUG 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <26 MAR 2003 by GarlanWA>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DETENTION OF DAVID LIGHT  
**TAGS:** CASC, (LIGHT, DAVID)  
**To:** MOGADISCIO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005